

# MAINE FARMER

AGRICULTURE MECHANIC ARTS GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

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Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

## SCAB, OR PELT ROT IN SHEEP.

Mr. Editor: As I am a subscriber to your excellent paper, I take the liberty of stating to you a trouble among my sheep, and if you will give me the best remedy, you will do me a great favor.

I think they have the scab, or something that causes them to itch, and a few of them have begun to rub, and some of them have started the wool from their backs. I will thank you in the next Farmer, if you can tell me what the remedy is.

JOHN PATTERSON.  
Smithfield, Feb. 26th, 1847.

## NOTES.

There are two diseases that affect sheep at this time, that causes the wool to start, viz: Scab and Pelt Rot. The scab is a formidable disease, and it is difficult to cope with it until after shearing. The following is a description of the scab as given by authors, and which is pretty correct. It first manifests itself by the starting of the fibres, or locks of wool from the rest of the fleece. It generally begins on the rump of the animal, and extends up the back and over the sides and neck. The animal is seen rubbing and biting its sides, and exhibits signs of great itching and uneasiness. On examination the wool is found to separate easily from the skin, and there is a red appearance of the skin, small watery pimples or tetter at first show themselves, and finally dry scabs or a scurf covers the infected place. The skin has a dry, stiff, meagre feel, and it appears to be hardened in lumps or ridges. In severe cases there is a yellowish water below the crust or scab. In time, the wool falls off from the whole diseased surface, and the locks present a miserable and disgusting appearance. The cause of this disease, is in fact, like the itch in the human system—a very minute insect burrowing in the skin. The best treatment in the winter, while the wool is on, is to anoint the parts well, with common *unguentum*. In the spring, after the wool is shorn, a very good remedy is to take the root of the Poke root or green Hellebore, add tobacco, say after the rate of a dozen pounds of tobacco to a bushel and a half of the root. Boil them up together, and add water. Put it into a hoghead, or large tub, and *soak* the sheep into it, "rubbing and scrubbing," and giving the animal a thorough soaking. The sheep may then be taken out, the liquor pressed out back again into the tub, and thus treat all the flock that are diseased.

## PELT ROT.

In this disease the wool falls off and leaves the skin bare. Sometimes it does not fall off, but it turns reddish on the back and sides of the sheep. The skin is hot, and as it becomes exposed to the air becomes dead. If left alone, it will sometimes heal over or run into scab. Sometimes the wool almost entirely falls off, and there is no appearance of soreness, though a white crust covers the skin where it is directed of the wool. This is generally brought on by exposure to cold fall or winter rains.

## On the first appearance of this disease,

the proper treatment is to shelter the sheep, and oil their skins well. Keep them comfortably dry, and well fed.

## A very good little work,

on the management and diseases of sheep, was published by the Kennebec Agricultural Society, some years ago, entitled the "Northern Shepherd." It may be had at the Farmer Office for fifty cents.

## HEAVY MUTTON.

We copy the following from the Woodstock Telegraph, published in Woodstock, New Brunswick.

"LARGE SHEEP. A few days ago we saw a carcass of mutton from the farm of Charles Perley, Esq., that exceeded anything of the kind that we have seen in this country. It weighed 148 pounds and sold for \$3.00. The skin and wool weighed 24 1/2 pounds. We should like to hear from some of our contemporaries if they ever knew this to be equalled."

## A short time ago we took occasion to call

at the farm of the same gentleman, and we must confess that we were highly gratified with our visit. At this season of the year, of course we could see nothing particularly interesting except the stock, and the arrangements that were made for their accommodation through the winter. We saw seventy-three sheep, forty-two of that number are breeding ewes. The average weight of wool for each sheep, for the whole number, it is thought will be about eight pounds. There are eighteen milch cows on the farm, five looking animals, of a crossed breed of the Devonshire and Tees Water; and nine yearling heifers of the Herefordshire breed. It is well known that Mr. Perley has devoted much attention to the improvement of stock in this country. Our farmers are indebted to him for the impetus that he has given to Agriculture generally, many of whom have followed his example and are now reaping the benefit."

## Mr. Perley's sheep are of the Cotswold

breed, and noble animals they are, too. He has one of the best farms in all "Up East," and he has taken unwearied pains to obtain first rate stock by importations from England. The good which he has thus done will live long and long after he has left the world, and be a source of comfort and profit to thousands of the next generation. Doing acts and deeds that are productive of good, even after one is dead, is the right kind of patriotism.

## MONSTRIOUS PIPER (or Gloria Mundi).

This apple often weighs 20 and even 25 and 30 ounces.

## ADDRESS.

Delivered before the Kennebec Agricultural Society, at their Annual Exhibition, in September, Oct. 15, '46.

BY DR. JOHN A. LYNDE, OF NORRIDGEWICK.

(PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE SOCIETY.)

## Two green crops ploughed in during winter,

will, in a great degree, protect the earth from the influence of the direct rays of the sun. Plants contain, already elaborated, all the elements necessary for the formation of others; not perhaps precisely in the same proportion, but always more or less of the essential parts. Reason, then, would teach the farmer that growing plants might readily be converted into effective manures, and experience fully supports the theory. Green manuring can only be used profitably in the warm part of our seasons, for at this time, the perfect decomposition is insured. Plants for green manure, should be ploughed in when they have come into flower, for at that time they have least exhausted the soil, and contain the most soluble matter. I cannot pursue this subject further. Stable manure you all know how to manage. You know when all other manures fail, that will almost always hit; but you cannot always have enough of that at your command; and if you had, it is not always the best possible manure for your land. And as lime, ashes and plaster are the three bodies which are usually applied as mineral manures, I shall make a few passing remarks on their nutrient action.

## I believe most chemists of the present day

hold this principle, the base of all salts act over the same in agriculture. Peculiarity of action depends upon the acid of the salt. Lime, for instance, which forms the base of a vast variety of salts, can never act other than as a lime; but when united with phosphoric acid, as in bones, or with sulphuric acid, as in plaster of Paris, very different results arise from its application to plants. Some of you are aware of the theory of Liebig, in regard to the action of plaster, which he supposes to arise solely from its absorption of ammonia of the air and water, by which soluble sulphate of ammonia is formed and appropriated by the plant. But this theory does not appear satisfactory to all our chemists. Were this absorption of ammonia the sole cause of the efficacy of plaster, it would be equally efficacious on all soils and in all places; but farmers are aware that such is not the fact. That this action on ammonia takes place cannot be questioned; but that it is the only cause of the efficacy of plaster is what is doubted. The action of plaster may be explained on this principle—that plaster decomposes this salt; the lime of the plaster then acts on the vegetable portion of the soil, which is thus rendered soluble, whilst the acid, to wit, the sulphuric, immediately acts on the mineral portion of the soil, or silicates. If silicates of an alkali exist in the soil, we have now changed sulphate of lime for an alkaline sulphate—and if silicate of lime is also present, the potash or alkali having been expended, plaster of Paris is formed anew. So long as there is in the soil organic matter, this action continues, and will continue, till the plant has gradually withdrawn, for its own use, the acid of the salt which was introduced. Thus fertility depends wholly upon salts and organic matter. Without the last there is no fruit formed—without salts, the vegetable matter is locked up or insoluble. We have a great deal of land that once yielded heavy crops of corn, that will not, even after a heavy dressing of common manure, yield half as much as formerly. This is almost wholly in consequence of sulphuric and sulphuric acid in the soil, derived from the disintegration of rocks containing sulphur and iron.

## You have all seen large rocks in walls,

and you have observed how the oxygen of the atmosphere and water combines with the iron in those rocks and decomposes and converts their surfaces into an oxide of iron; this sets the sulphur free, and that combines with oxygen in different proportions, and forms sulphurous and sulphuric acids. Now if you put plaster on such land it does no good at all, or rather does hurt. Plaster is composed of 40 parts of sulphuric acid and 28 parts of lime; the acid is neutralized by the lime, and, therefore, inert. But, reasoning from chemical principles, if we apply to such soils hydrate or slacked lime, it will combine with the acid of the soil, and the lime will be converted into sulphate of lime or plaster of Paris, and thus remove the free acid from the soil in the ratio of 40 pounds of acid to 28 of lime. Thus by putting on lime to such a soil, you neutralize the acid and form plaster of Paris, a good fertilizer. It is well here to observe that unleached ashes will neutralize the acidity of such a soil, precisely as saleratus does our dough, by combining with the free acid of the soil and forming a neutral sulphate of potash. I apprehend the most important part ashes performs in agriculture, is in decomposing silicic acid and rendering it soluble, so as to be taken up by the rootlets of the plant, and by proper vessels carried to every part, and there assimilated and applied to the various purposes for which nature intended it, viz: to form the skeleton of the plant or tree, to glaze on the corn-stalk and kernel, straw, and grasses. As to the use of lime on land much might be said, and I should be happy, if time would permit, to say it, for I am sure it is a thing not very difficult to understand. If your land is deficient in organic matter, and is wet, lime will do it injury. If it contains much vegetable matter and is dry, lime will do it good. But, lime has one of the best farms in all "Up East," and he has taken unwearied pains to obtain first rate stock by importations from England. The good which he has thus done will live long and long after he has left the world, and be a source of comfort and profit to thousands of the next generation. Doing acts and deeds that are productive of good, even after one is dead, is the right kind of patriotism.

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## that lime is beneficial to plants, as they ex-

crete from their roots an acid, which, in coming in contact with the lime, is converted into a soluble salt which is taken up into the system of the plant. Thus you will readily perceive, that by a chemical process, a part of the decayed vegetable constituents in every soil forms one or more acids, and these unite with such alkalies as lime, potash and soda. In this state the several compounds are soluble to a certain extent, and nature takes them, by the endosmosis principle, into the pores of the tree or plant. I wish I could pursue this subject further for your consideration, but perhaps enough has already been said to show you how nature is all the time at work in her great laboratory, mixing, dissolving and pulverizing your soils; and whether you be asleep or awake, her wonderful processes are still going on. We are, in a certain sense, at every meal, eating up our own granite rocks. Granite is composed of three different minerals, quartz, felspar and mica.

## Quartz is supposed to be of an acid na-

ture—felspar contains from 12 to 15 per cent of potash—mica from 2 to 8 per cent of the same. Now look on the granite rock in your field and see the plant in all its beauty waving by its side! The roots of this plant, have, as we saw, the power of decomposing this rock to obtain the potash you can find in its ashes. Thus the living and growing plant is a consummate analyst or chemist, always at work—always destroying, and always creating salts and gases for its own food. What great lesson does this teach us? It teaches us the great lesson of human industry, extending through all the worlds, embracing all the spheres, from the lowest atom to the most exalted cherubim, every order of being works for a living—works out its own destiny. "Work, work, work," is the triumphant song that rings through the universe, for the glory of the Creator and the happiness of the creature! All is action—all is motion. Planets are rolling—rains are falling—zephyrs are whistling—waters are flowing—rocks are dissolving—plants are springing up, and the whole universe this moment has changed from what it was the moment before now. Action and motion, motion and action are the laws of nature. Who can be a sluggard? Let us copy her great lesson.

## There is one thing which I wish to observe,

and that is, that the mere presence of a body influences the nature of a second body so as wholly to change its properties. This is what is called, in chemistry, the action of presence or catalysis. For example, starch is converted into sugar by the sulphuric acid or oil of vitriol. The acid suffers no change. It acts by mere presence and converts the starch into sugar. I believe this is generally considered a truth, that all decomposition takes place in obedience to a third substance acting by its presence. Just as though three men were to meet, and the two first would act differently because the third was present, although the third should not do a thing or say a word to either. So the vital principle of plants, let it be called life, electricity, galvanism, acts by its presence only, and gives power to enter into new combinations. I make this statement to let you know that a living, growing plant in your soil, will, in one year, effect a greater amount of decomposition than all atmospheric influences can in many years. The scientific farmer can be nothing but a philosopher, for his every day business, when rightly conducted, is but the application of scientific principles. Agriculture is the science of sciences, that great science which calls to its aid every science. To study it, the farmer must be a geologist, a mineralogist, a chemist, a physicist, a meteorologist, a zoologist, a botanist, and a philosopher. We must even invoke the geologist in his dark abode, and the astronomer in the skies for our instruction. And, indeed, the occupation of the farmer is a general for such a study. His labors are pursued in the open air, in continual use of the great laboratory of nature, stimulating him constantly to inquiry and research. He holds the simple, but grand and glorious machinery of the great universe, disposing him to serene reflections and noble aspirations. Would I could bring home to your consideration the dignity of your vocation. None, save the preacher's, is nearer heaven than yours. The social angel when he descended to converse with man, broke bread with the husbandman beneath the tree. For his song is only for him to pray—for the song of praise through the universe is "work, work, work."

## If your occupation be of so high a charac-

ter it should make you ever devout and grateful. When nature herself is all the time at work to procure food for our sustenance, are we not ungrateful and ungrateful if we do not lend her a helping hand? Ought we not to adore her sublime operations? For as the air shivers the rocks and depresses the mountains—the fluent waters grind them up and float them down to our habitations. The very plants work night and day to elaborate them into our food. Nature is continually composing and decomposing for our benefit. Every zephyr that sweeps over the earth wafts a nutriment to our fields. Every bird in the valley and every wind on the hill sing the hope and promise of the year. Every gem of spangled dew brings its offering from the skies. Every falling rain-drop is but an element of food, and every sunbeam from heaven bears an odor on its wing. It is for us to look on this wonderful metempsychosis of matter with admiration and delight. To understand the process of nature by which certain elements of earth, air and water, are transformed into living plants, and the best methods of preparing these elements so as to produce the largest crops at the least expense, are objects worthy of the careful and pious consideration of every cultivator of the soil. We must study and understand these things. Upon the altars of our country we must pledge ourselves to be faithful and dili-

## gent in the prosecution of this duty. We

cannot be intelligent farmers unless we are philosophers. We may be humble, then, before the magnitude of our vocation, and ask ourselves, are we competent to the performance of its duties? Agriculture is wisdom and philosophy made practical by care and industry.

## Until we know the kinds of food best adapted

to the different species of plants, and the best means of administering to their wants, we cannot boast of perfection in this great art. By the valuable discoveries of some of the greatest men of the age, many of the mysteries of vegetable physiology have been laid open and great advantages to the human race must result. We cannot predict what improvements may be made in agriculture, more than we can in the physical sciences; we know this is an age of wonders and improvement. The man, at the beginning of the present century, is not the man of 1846. You all remember how Animal Magnetism raged a few years since—how clairvoyant the public mind grew—how a patient was made to see in a manner different from the ordinary mode of vision. His whole brain was metamorphosed into a translucent retina, and the image of the whole universe was brought to his sublime vision. But, Mr. President, however strange and inconsistent this may appear, yet we can see something equally strange, which is a philosophical reality. When we can see a man standing here, by the help of electric lightning, conversing with another man at the same time in a different section of the globe, holding a dialogue, where mountains and rivers and even States intervene—when we can see cold rusty iron, boiling water and murky coal moving and inhaled with life, ruddling a great Iron Horse, freighted with life and hope, across a continent, we can set no bounds to improvement in agriculture or any thing else. What a few years ago was a paradox is now but a lucid problem, and the greatest man now on earth may consider himself a child, playing with trifles and toys on the shore of knowledge. How then can we say with any degree of certainty what, or how great improvement may be made in farming operations; but this much we know, there is boundless room for boundless progress. We all well know that our horses, cattle, sheep, swine, grasses, grains, dairies, farming implements, and household arts, are all very far from perfection. We have means in our hands to make nature around us subservient to our wants. But we must remember that economy and industry are the two great pillars of all prosperity and happiness. If we purchase no more land than we need—if we plant no more ground than we can well manure and cultivate to advantage—if we keep no more stock than we can keep in good order, and that of the best kind—if we hire no man to do a piece of work which we can do ourselves—if we sell always more than we buy—if we buy nothing we do not need—if we save whenever we can, without resorting to meanness—if we take care of whatever we have earned or possess—if we put our own hands to the work, and do not without a reasonable probability of paying it at the time agreed, and offer no sacrifices to the rosy god of wine, we shall have good reason to look for very great improvement in every branch of industry. I do not pretend to be any agricultural prophet, but I believe I can behold the harbinger of a brighter sun and a more glorious harvest. I can see agriculture reduced to an exact science, and spread over our land like a beautiful garment, increasing her products tenfold. The earth, from the shortest of her best kind, can find a horse now that will travel 70 miles a day, as one a few years since that would travel 50 miles: A few years of improvement in their speed will make them travel 100 miles a day. That it is as common to find beef cattle now weighing 2000 pounds, as a few years since those which weighed 1200 pounds. Would not, then, improvement a few years longer make them weigh 4000 pounds? Who knows that the present ox is not destined to be as large as the ancient mammoth? He is increasing in weight and skeleton every year at our farms. Who knows but that he will stalk the great quadruped king of the present time, as did the mammoth and mastodon of ancient times? We have good reason to anticipate such a result. Improvement can be as sure as death. 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AUGUST, THURSDAY, MAR. 11, 1847.

## FACTS AND QUERIES IN EEL-LOGY.

All our readers know that there is a queer fish, called an eel, but all our readers do not know every truth in regard to their natural history. We have always supposed that they never ventured far off into the ocean, but that they keep about in shoal waters, sometimes about the flats on the sea coast, and then migrating up the streams and into the ponds. We have called them a fish, because they have a species of gills and fins, and live in the water, but they do not stay in the water all of the time. We have seen them among the grass, where there was water enough to keep the grass and the surface of the ground moist. We know a stream in the Old Colony, up which the eels come in the fall of the year. On the margin of that stream is a spring, say six or eight rods up the slope of its bank, from which the water escapes and spreads over quite an extent of grass ground between that and the stream. This makes the ground there, quite moist, the water being generally "half-dry" deep. We have often been there in the mornings of September and October, and caught eels that had come out of the stream in the night and were lurking among the grass, carefully avoiding any dry place or open space where the sun would shine in upon them.

We have mentioned that eels come up from the sea into the fresh water streams and ponds. We have always supposed that they came from the sea in the Fall and returned in the Spring. We still believe that we are right in this, because, when a boy, we used to have rare sport catching eels in an eel-pot in the Fall of the year, and we always used to set the mouth of this (the eel-pot) down stream, placing a low wicker of stones on each side to check the eels and conduct them into the mouth of the pot. We have also another fact in our mind. Some twenty two or three years ago, before there were any dams built across the Penobscot river, we took a ramble up that river as high as Mattawamkeag Point in the month of September. At that time there was quite an Indian village on the point, and near the confluence of the Mattawamkeag river with the Penobscot, the Indians had some very excellent wicker built in the river and eel-traps attached, in which they caught large numbers of excellent eels. These wicker were built like a V, with the angle up stream and the mouth down stream, so as to conduct the eels into prison as they came up river in the Fall of the year. But we have recently read in a work from high authority, that eels migrate twice per year, namely, in the Spring from the sea, and in the Autumn to the ocean. This writer is none other than the celebrated Sir Humphrey Davy, in his work entitled "Salmonia."—Now, either English eels have very different manners and customs from Yankee eels, or one of us is wrong in our eel-ology. It is a matter of grave import, and the truth should be known. We thought we were sure of the fact, and still believe we are right. Well, now, if we are actually right, either the great English philosopher is wholly wrong, or his eels are the very antipodes to ours in their migratory habits. We will state what Sir Humphrey says, and then call upon some of the common sense fishermen of Maine to say who is right in the matter; for we shall not allow any Yankee nobleman to belie our American Yankee Democratic eels "anyhow he can fix it."

"There are two migrations of eels," says Sir Humphrey, "one from the sea and the other to the sea: the first in Spring and the second in Autumn, or early Winter—the first of very small eels, which are sometimes not more than two, or two and a half inches long; the second of large eels, which sometimes are three or four feet long, and weigh from ten to fifteen pounds."

"They appear in millions," he continues to say, "in April and May, and sometimes continue to rise as late as July and the beginning of August. I remember this was the case in Ireland in 1823. It had been a cold, backward Summer, and when I was at Ballynahon about the end of July, the mouth of the river, which had been in flood all this month, under the fall was blackened by millions of little eels, about as long as the finger, which were constantly urging their way up the moist rocks by the side of the fall. Thousands died, but their bodies remaining moist, served as a ladder for others to make their way; and I saw them ascending even perpendicular stairs, making their road through wet moss, or adhering to some eels that had died in the attempt."

Now, we do not dispute all this, for we are totally unacquainted with Irish eels, but our eels make for the ponds and shoal parts, such as the creeks, &c., of the sea, in the Fall and Winter. Thousands of them are caught in the creeks and shallow waters of old Massachusetts Bay, by cutting through the ice and spearing them, people oftentimes making great hauls of them—fat and excellent.

As we said in the beginning, they are a queer fish, inasmuch as they can walk in the water or in the wet grass; but as wise as some of us pretend to be, we don't know all about eels yet.

We hope some of our shore friends will communicate such facts as they may have ascertained in regard to this species of the fishy tribe.

THE WONDERFUL INQUIRY OF THE GREAT. The Gordian knot is represented by some to have been invented by Gordias, a Phrygian king, who attached the pole of a chariot to the body by a device so ingeniously conceived that the oracle pronounced that the kingdom of Phrygia should fall to the person who could untie it. According to a tradition of that country, "Young Ammon" being persuaded that the oracle had reference to him, after many fruitless attempts to untie it fairly, had recourse to his sword, crying out "that was the only way to untie it." The priests, we are informed, hailed the omen, and asserted that "Alexander had fulfilled the oracle."

FIRE IN PITTSBURG. We learn that, on Wednesday night of last week, the dwelling house of Mr. Isaac Mason in Pittsburg, was consumed by fire. Furniture saved. Insured for \$550. Loss not known to us.

## ANDROSOGGIN AND KENNEBEC R. ROAD.

The stockholders of this projected Railroad had a meeting at Winthrop, on the 5th instant. The day was pleasant, the sleighing excellent, and the concourse of people immense. The large Congregational meeting house in that village was crowded full. The greatest harmony prevailed, and all went away satisfied, as they always have been, that the road would, ere long, be finished and in operation. All the books had not arrived when we heard the report of the amount of stock subscribed. When we saw the reported sum, it amounted to (\$436,837) four hundred and thirty-six thousand, eight hundred and thirty-seven dollars, and five per cent. of it paid in.

Edward Little, Esq., of Lewiston, was Chairman. The meeting was addressed by numerous gentlemen, during the day, among whom were Messrs. Preble, J. S. Little and Goodnow of Portland, Moore and Stetson of Bangor, Boutelle, Champlin and others of Waterville, and several others who were strangers to us. A code of by-laws was read and adopted, and a board of thirteen directors chosen, viz: W. B. S. Moore of Bangor, T. Boutelle and J. Morrill of Waterville, S. Taylor, of Fairfield, John Ware of Athens, Dr. J. Prescott of Farmington, Lot M. Morrill of Redfield, R. B. Dunn of Wayne, S. P. Benson of Winthrop, Josiah H. Little of Lewiston, John Fox and Wm. Goodnow of Portland, and Hobart Clark of Andover, Mass.

Subsequently the directors made choice of Timothy Boutelle, Waterville, for President; Samuel Appleton, Waterville, for Treasurer; Samuel P. Benson, Winthrop, for Clerk.

During the meeting the following proposition was presented by W. B. S. Moore, Esq., of Bangor, and after discussion, unanimously adopted—  
Voted, That the Directors of this company be authorized and empowered to negotiate with the Penobscot and Kennebec Railroad company for a union of the two companies, and that the whole line of road embraced within the charters of the Androsoggin and Kennebec Railroad company and the Penobscot and Kennebec Railroad company may be built and owned by one company; and that they have full authority to adopt any measures to effect this object that they shall deem necessary and expedient. They are also authorized to negotiate such a connection between the aforesaid corporations as shall practically be equivalent to a consolidation and union of the two corporations, should that mode be deemed preferable to a union by an act of the Legislature. Provided, that the acts of the directors under this vote shall not be binding on the company, unless adopted by a vote of the stockholders of this company.

MEETING IN WINTHROP FOR THE RELIEF OF THE IRISH. A public meeting of the citizens of Wintthrop was held on the 4th inst., in Concert Hall, to concert measures for contributing to the relief of the starving poor of Ireland. Stephen Sewall, Esq., was chosen Chairman, and David Stanley, Esq., Secretary. On motion a committee was raised to report resolutions, who reported the following, and the meeting was addressed on the subject by many of the citizens present.

Resolved, That the plentiful harvest in our own favored land, calls for devout gratitude to God, and benevolence to man,—that while we have bread enough and to spare, our fellow-men in Ireland and Scotland are dying for want of the necessities of life, of absolute starvation, and that we will forthwith contribute, according to our means, to relieve the sufferings of the poor of those unhappy lands.

Resolved, That Stephen Sewall, Francis Fuller, James B. Filibrown, Elen Shaw, Moses H. Metcalf, Alvin Armstrong, Albert Sturtevant, Nathan Kimball, Anson Stanley, Levi Haskell, Cyrus Bishop, Samuel Chandler, Leonard S. Prince, Thomas C. Wood, Owen Dealy and Enos Chandler, be appointed a committee to collect and forward the contributions which may be raised (provided no more eligible mode of transmission from the State may be found) to the committee in Boston for that purpose, with a request that the same may be speedily sent and faithfully applied to the objects of our charity.

Voted, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Maine Farmer.

Voted, To adjourn to meet at the same place on the 13th.

S. SEWALL, Chairman.

D. STANLEY, Secretary.

IDOLATRY DONE IN CHINA. Dr. Gutzell states that the Chinese have troubled their idols from their high estate and quit worshipping them. They supposed that when the opium war broke out between them and Great Britain, these idols would interpose and save them. They soon found that they could neither save their worshippers nor themselves. They therefore demolished them. Served them right.

SEPARATING OLD VIRGINIA. The Richmond Star advocates dividing the Old Dominion (Virginia) into two States, to be called Eastern Virginia and Western Virginia.

TEXAS SUGAR. The Galveston papers say that they make better sugar in Texas than in Louisiana, or anywhere else in the whole created world.

BIG BALANCE WHEEL. The Naumkeag Steam Mill, at Salem, is having a "fly-wheel" built at Providence, R. I., which is to weigh 20 tons—is 20 feet in diameter, rim 9 inches deep and 18 inches face.

EXTRA NEAT. A "European correspondent" of the Saturday Courier, says that the farmers are so neat in Holland that they "tie up the cows' tails while in the stall to prevent their becoming soiled."

THEM TREASURY NOTES. Those dated 4th February are made payable two years after date to an assignee, and the assignee endorses them over to the bearer, and they then pass like a bank note by delivery. These notes are stamped on the face of the note—"Principal fundable at the option of the holder in the U. S. 6 per cent stock with semi-annual interest, redeemable after 1867." You will find an interest table on the back of \$1000 notes, to help you count up the interest that Uncle Sam owes you on it. Quite convenient—that is, the note—and the interest table, too.

GREAT HORSE. The London Sunday Times says that Manchester is to be honored by being the town in which Mrs. Butler (late Fanny Kemble) will make her reappearance on the stage! Crackley!

A LOSS INCURRED. Hon. H. Hamlin, of this State, lost his trunk on Friday, in Philadelphia, containing \$800.

## NEWS FROM THE ARMY.

We have New Orleans papers up to the 24th ult.; they bring us late intelligence from Tampico of considerable interest. The four companies of Louisiana volunteers who were wrecked on the Ondinka had reached Tampico in safety, with the exception of six persons, who were left behind; the Mexicans and the Volunteers, who were generally in good health, but much exhausted by their fatigue. Gen. Scott had not arrived at Tampico. The reports of sickness among the troops, Tampico and said to have been much exaggerated, and their general health is reported as excellent. There are now 7000 troops at Tampico. Their destination is not known, but Vera Cruz is supposed to be their next point of attack. Capt. Brown, of the schooner "Hector," who arrived at Tampico on the 9th, from the wreck, reports that he had the ship set on fire and burnt.

The New Orleans Commercial Times of Monday, has a short and interesting intelligence from Brazos Santiago. It is up to the 16th ult. The troops were at length in motion. All the private vessels at the Brazos had been taken up by Government, and were loading with mules, wagons and provisions. The troops of the schooner "Hector," and Gen. Worth and staff were at the mouth, waiting to embark. Gen. Scott was still at the Brazos, but expected to leave on the Alabama, which arrived there on the morning of the 18th. The news of the capture of Matamoros, and the whole command will depart for Vera Cruz. Gen. Minon reports his prisoners to be 82 in all. Besides Americans taken, there was one Mexican named Galeano, who had been in the troops of the schooner "Hector," and immediately put to the sword, although Major Gaines interceded.

LATER, Washington, March 4. We have received N. O. papers to 25th. The Picayune of the 25th ult. contains Brazos Santiago. A large number of the Mexicans, who were the whole command will depart for Vera Cruz. Gen. Minon reports his prisoners to be 82 in all. Besides Americans taken, there was one Mexican named Galeano, who had been in the troops of the schooner "Hector," and immediately put to the sword, although Major Gaines interceded.

Capt. Heady, of Kentucky, was also captured two days after Borland's party, by a party of Mexicans, who were then on the march. Capt. Heady was taken to one of the camps, and was surrounded the night after they marched 40 miles. It is said that Cassius M. Clay would have forced the ranks, but could not induce the others to assist him. The Mexicans were greatly outnumbering them.

The late Henry Miller, prisoner, acting as interpreter for the Arkansas troops, escaped from the Mexican camp on Maj. Gaines' horse. It is stated in a San Luis letter of the 24th, that he was captured by the Mexicans, and taken to the place where Minon made his capture, three bodies of infantry and one brigade of cavalry and foot artillery, with 14 pieces of heavy artillery; also, that in two days after the division of the Mexicans, the remainder would follow. At San Luis, it so appears, that a blow is to be struck in the direction of Saltillo. Santa Anna's address is published, favoring this idea—and opinions of officers, however various they may be, seem to think that the true destination is Vera Cruz, and that the display of his troops on the other side of San Luis is intended as a mask or decoy.

## ARMY INTELLIGENCE.

By late arrivals at New Orleans, dates have been received from the Brazos to the 19th ult., and Tampico to the 16th ult. Letters have been received in New Orleans from Tampico, to the effect that Gen. Shields had issued orders for the capture of the town of Matamoros, and that the vessels then in port, to be used as transports to convey men and provisions to some point unknown to the writers.

The intelligence received via the Brazos, of a projected action at Saltillo, is confirmed. All Gen. Butler's outposts are said by the Matamoros Press to have been driven in, and the attack, if made at all, was expected during the first few days of February. Gen. Heady, who was present on the scene, says that the Mexicans were in the act of attacking the camp of Gen. Taylor's command at Saltillo would exceed rather than fall short of 6,000 men. There was no fear as to the result. Major Heady believed that the Mexicans would be in such force, and so strongly posted, the idea of an attack would be abandoned. Very many officers were still of opinion that Santa Anna meditated no serious blow in that direction; that he was only a division of his army, and that he would lead the main body of his forces to Vera Cruz.

A good deal of apprehension is felt at Matamoros of an attack from Gen. Freja. This officer is understood to be on the side of the mountains, at the head of 4,000 troops. Of these 2,000 are not to be surpassed in the Mexican service; the remainder are irregular cavalry or rancheros. Colonel Drake has the command at Matamoros, where an Indian regiment is stationed. One company of rifles had been detached from it to relieve Capt. Lowe, in the command of Fort Brown. A company of regular recruits was shortly expected to reinforce the garrison. It had provided muskets and ammunition for the use of citizens of Matamoros, in case of an attack. He had sent to port Isabel for several pieces of ordnance for the defence of the city. Santa Anna's movements, and the Indians volunteers had been converted into a corps of artillery, and stationed in the Plaza.

The Picayune does not deem the danger threatening Matamoros very imminent.

Gen. Scott left the Brazos on the 13th ult., in the steamer Massachusetts, for Tampico and the Island of Lobos. The ship American departed for the Island three days before, loaded entirely with surf-boats, which are employed in transporting to the main land the boats and troops, and the other side of the island, and would see his whole command on ship-board before leaving. The troops would be concentrated at the Isle of Lobos as rapidly as possible, and were prepared to depart for Yula. This company has had prepared a peculiar standard, according to their custom; on one side is depicted the national arms, with the motto "Viva la Republica Mexicana," and on the other side is St. Patrick, their patron saint. These brave men, who have abandoned the most unjust causes to defend the territory of their adopted country, will find in Mexicans open and loyal hearts, welcome and hospitality, and besides, the justice and ample recompense which their services merit.

The troops are pouring into Vera Cruz in considerable numbers. When the decree authorizing the confiscation of church property reached Queretaro, the Secretary of that State refused to take part in its promulgation, and resigned his office. Bodies of the military patrolled the streets and protected the points where the decrees were posted. A mob collected in front of the governor's palace and insulted him by their outcries. The military were again called out to disperse the rioters, and eight were shot in doing this.

LATER, Washington, March 3. A slip from the N. O. Picayune office last Wednesday last, contains extracts from the Tampico Sentinel of that date, containing extracts from papers of the city of Matamoros, of 31st Feb., giving full details of the capture of 70 Americans by Gen. Minon. A letter of all kinds of kind, dated San Luis, Jan. 27th, announced the arrival of the prisoners and rebukes the rejoicing over this bloody victory. It states that Minon's force was 2,000.

The same paper declares that the Americans were scattered early in the morning at a watering place. The Sentinel says that there were many rumors, supposed with some truth that Santa Anna is going towards Monterey, and it is possible that Minon was in command of an advance guard. It is an excellent opinion. He accompanied Santa Anna on his return from exile, and may arouse the drooping energies of the Mexicans.

The names of the lost 70 Americans were published. They were: 1st Major, 3 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 5 Sergeants, and 13 privates.

THE SENTINEL SAYS THAT THERE WERE MANY RUMORS, SUPPOSED WITH SOME TRUTH THAT SANTA ANNA IS GOING TOWARDS MONTEREY, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MINON WAS IN COMMAND OF AN ADVANCE GUARD. IT IS AN EXCELLENT OPINION.

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aved its independence. How the world will admire us! How the nation will bless us! And when in the bosoms of our families we shall relate the risks and fatigues which we have endured, the combats with triumph and hereafter, when telling our children that we have saved our country a second time, the jubilee will be complete, and these sacrifices will then appear to us as nothing.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA. Headquarters, San Luis Potosi, Jan. 27.

## FROM SANTA FE.

The St. Louis papers of the 19th and 20th Feb., contain news from New Mexico. The Revelle has letters from Santa Fe as late as 12th of December, from which we make the following extracts:

Col. Doniphan, who left Santa Fe on the 27th of October, marched southward some distance, and then turned westward into the country of the Salado Indians. On the 23d of November, at the "Ojo Ojo," near Bear Spring, about 250 miles south-west of Santa Fe, he met the Nabajos, (all the chiefs being present, in person or by proxy) and made a treaty with them, stipulating for a change of position between the Nabajos and Mexicans, and for a peace, to embrace the Mexicans and Pueblo Indians, as well as the Americans.

After treating with the Nabajos, Col. Doniphan, with a small independent Indian community, made a treaty with the principal men of the town.

Capt. Stephenson who arrived at Santa Fe on the 6th Feb., reported the condition of all their animals as very bad. In his tour through the country, he saw many horses and mules, and some cattle, but no sheep, and no goats.

Lieut. Butler, Col. Doniphan's Adjutant, had died of fever in a small village south-west of Santa Fe, and his body was found in a cave, and was greatly decayed.

Capt. Walton, with his company, about the time Col. Doniphan was making his treaty, was stationed near the camp of the traders, and was ordered to guard the traders, and to act as a substitute for the regiment. It seems that the sheep were not guarded with much vigilance and care; and one day two men of the company, Stewart and Spears, were sent out to guard the sheep, and the night thought as was expected, some others were sent after them, and found their dead bodies horribly mangled, their brains apparently having been beaten out with stones. The sheep had been driven off.

Col. Mitchell had left Santa Fe with 100 picked men, to open a communication with Chihuahua.

No news from Gen. Kearney. Geo. Kent and F. P. Blair have gone to the Hela country, to trade with the Apaches. The regiment was at Santa Fe, Col. Price's regiment was at Santa Fe, except one company, who came to Santa Fe, but most of the oxen and horses starved for want of forage.

The Traders, with near two hundred wagons, were encamped at Valverde, on the Rio Abasco, afraid to venture further south; a small detachment of troops guarded them, and great scarcity of food existed among them.

Accounts from Chihuahua state that it was expected that Dr. Connelly, Mr. Doane and Mr. McManus (traders taken prisoners by the Mexicans) would be released, but that they were still in the hands of the Mexicans. It was said that they were undergoing a trial for life. Mr. M. is a naturalized Mexican citizen. During his trial some papers of which the Indians had robbed him were produced, and it was supposed that the decision would be against him and result in his conviction. There are said to be letters from Gen. Kearney to Gen. Wool among the papers. It is said that Wool were entertained that the Mexicans would be released, and that he would lead the main body of his forces to Vera Cruz.

The celebrated Winnebago chief, Whirling Thunder, recently died on an advanced age. His Indian name was Waw-con-chocaw-faw.

## INTELLIGENCE FROM MEXICO.

The Picayune of the 21st ult. contains later and important intelligence from Mexico. The Mexican journals sent favored with the most accurate information in regard to the movements of our troops. A company has been organized in the Mexican army of deserters from our ranks. The Picayune translates the following from El Soldado de la Patria, published at San Luis Potosi, on the 13th of Jan.

"A story of the North—FOREIGN REGIONS. On Sunday last we had the pleasure of seeing a beautiful company, which, by the direction of the commander-in-chief, has been formed of the deserters from the American army, and for the most part Irishmen. They are perfectly equipped and armed, and are prepared to depart for Yula. This company has had prepared a peculiar standard, according to their custom; on one side is depicted the national arms, with the motto 'Viva la Republica Mexicana,' and on the other side is St. Patrick, their patron saint. These brave men, who have abandoned the most unjust causes to defend the territory of their adopted country, will find in Mexicans open and loyal hearts, welcome and hospitality, and besides, the justice and ample recompense which their services merit."

The troops are pouring into Vera Cruz in considerable numbers. When the decree authorizing the confiscation of church property reached Queretaro, the Secretary of that State refused to take part in its promulgation, and resigned his office. Bodies of the military patrolled the streets and protected the points where the decrees were posted. A mob collected in front of the governor's palace and insulted him by their outcries. The military were again called out to disperse the rioters, and eight were shot in doing this.

LATER, Washington, March 3. A slip from the N. O. Picayune office last Wednesday last, contains extracts from the Tampico Sentinel of that date, containing extracts from papers of the city of Matamoros, of 31st Feb., giving full details of the capture of 70 Americans by Gen. Minon. A letter of all kinds of kind, dated San Luis, Jan. 27th, announced the arrival of the prisoners and rebukes the rejoicing over this bloody victory. It states that Minon's force was 2,000.

The same paper declares that the Americans were scattered early in the morning at a watering place. The Sentinel says that there were many rumors, supposed with some truth that Santa Anna is going towards Monterey, and it is possible that Minon was in command of an advance guard. It is an excellent opinion. He accompanied Santa Anna on his return from exile, and may arouse the drooping energies of the Mexicans.

The names of the lost 70 Americans were published. They were: 1st Major, 3 Captains, 1 Lieutenant, 5 Sergeants, and 13 privates.

THE SENTINEL SAYS THAT THERE WERE MANY RUMORS, SUPPOSED WITH SOME TRUTH THAT SANTA ANNA IS GOING TOWARDS MONTEREY, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MINON WAS IN COMMAND OF AN ADVANCE GUARD. IT IS AN EXCELLENT OPINION.

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## FROM THE GULF.

Off Anton Lizardo, Feb. 4, 1847.

On the 19th of January, the Commodore transferred his flag to the Princeton, and proceeded on a cruise to Laguna, a village, or rather a succession of villages, situated on a large lagoon about thirty miles northward of Campeachy, and about 200 miles south of Vera Cruz. On the 27th, the Princeton returned to this anchorage, and the Commodore to his own ship. During his absence, the prize steamer Tetra, brought down from Vera Cruz on the 23d, Lieutenant Colonel Alfonso Delapou, of Louisiana. Under instructions from General Scott, he set out from New Orleans to visit Vera Cruz and the surrounding country as a spy, and to cover his intentions proceeded first to Havana, and obtained a passport to Vera Cruz as a Frenchman, (he is of French descent and speaks the tongue like a Parisian.) After arriving there, he penetrated as far as Jalapa, ascertained the probable number of men that could be thrown into the castle of San Juan de Ullon, the length of time for which it is provisioned, &c., and the general tone ensemble, the material, &c., that would oppose Gen. Scott's contemplated attack.

On the 23d, three vessels ran the blockade at Vera Cruz, notwithstanding the vigilance of the Albany and St. Mary's; in fact steamers are the only vessels to blockade effectually. On the 29th, the Porpoise returned from Tampico, and the sloop Mariner proceeded to that place with Colonel Delapou on board as a passenger. On the 31st, the Porpoise went out to cruise, and the Princeton left for the blockade of Alvarado.

The rumor is not correct, that our whole naval force has been ordered to collect here on the 20th of this month, to be in readiness to co-operate with Gen. Scott in the expected attack on Vera Cruz, and it is the general impression throughout the squadron that we should have a fight with the Mexicans.

The only vessels of war now present at this anchorage are the frigates Raritan and Steamer Spitfire, together with a number of gunboats. [Norfolk Herald.]

INTERESTING SURGICAL CASE. A son of Mr. John Robie of Webster, Me., aged five years, on Monday afternoon last, while sliding down hill upon a hand-sled, with some beach nuts in his mouth, accidentally got his head caught in a windmill. He was immediately taken to the house, and the wound was immediately dressed. A variety of expedients were resorted to for dislodging the nut, such as administering an emetic, holding him up by his hair, &c. &c.—but all without success. Eight hours were consumed in such trials—Dr. McKean of Topham, upon seeing the patient, at once gave it as his opinion that nothing short of an immediate operation could save the little fellow's life, and night thought as was expected, some others were sent after them, and found their dead bodies horribly mangled, their brains apparently having been beaten out with stones. The sheep had been driven off.

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## CONGRESSIONAL.

WEDNESDAY, March 3.

SENATE. The House amendment to the Paul Jones bill has been adopted. The Post office bill came up, and the House amendment, after some discussion, was struck out. The amendment proposed to allow the Postmasters to select the territory to select or, in other words,



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[illegible]



